

Message Text

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61

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TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

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S E C R E T STATE 194052

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, JA, KS

SUBJECT: ROK-JAPAN RELATIONS: KIMURA'S STATEMENTS RE

NIXON-SATO COMMUNIQUE

REF: TOKYO 11328

1. DEPARTMENT IS CONCERNED BY APPARENTLY CONTRADICTIONARY STATEMENTS BY FOREIGN MINISTER KIMURA CITED PARA 2 REFTTEL, I.E. STATEMENT IN DIET AND AT PRESS LUNCHEON THAT PRESENT GOJ POSITION IS THAT "PEACE AND SECURITY IN KOREAN PENINSULA ARE VITAL TO SECURITY OF JAPAN" FOLLOWED BY STATEMENT AT FOREIGN PRESS CLUB TO EFFECT THAT "NIXON-SATO 1969 COMMUNIQUE WAS LEADERS' VIEW OF SITUATION AT TIME, NOT A TREATY OR AGREEMENT WHICH IS LEGALLY BINDING." EMBASSY SHOULD SEEK CLARIFICATION FROM FONOFF AT HIGH LEVEL. VICE MINISTER TOGO IS FULLY AWARE OF NEGOTIATING HISTORY SURROUNDING 1969 NIXON-SATO COMMUNIQUE. USG POSITION REMAINS CLEAR THAT, DESPITE CURRENT DOMESTIC POLITICAL UNREST IN ROK AND PRESENT BILATERAL PROBLEMS BETWEEN JAPAN AND SOUTH KOREA, STRATEGIC SITUATION TO
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WHICH BOTH USG AND GOJ ADDRESSED THEMSELVES IN 1969

COMMUNIQUE REMAINS ESSENTIALLY UNCHANGED.

2. PLEASE REPORT SOONEST RESULT OF DEMARCHE. INGERSOLL

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